

selves among the natives, with little opposition, and it would surely be no proof of judgment to imitate them in an error which they have now retracted, and deprive the book of its chief use by scrupulous distinctions.

Of such words however, all are not equally to be considered as parts of our language, for some of them are naturalized and incorporated, but others still continue aliens, and are rather auxiliaries than subjects. This naturalization is produced either by an admission into common speech in some metaphorical signification, which is the acquisition of a kind of property among us, as we say the *zenith* of advancement, the *meridian* of life, the † *cynosure* of neighbouring eyes; or it is the consequence of long intermixture and frequent use, by which the ear is accustomed to the sound of words till their original is forgotten, as in *equator*, *satellites*; or of the change of a foreign to an English termination, and a conformity to the laws of the speech into which they are adopted, as in *category*, *cachexy*, *peripneumony*.

Of those which yet continue in the state of aliens, and have made no approaches towards assimilation, some seem necessary to be retained, because the purchasers of the dictionary will expect to find them. Such are many words in the common law, as *capias*, *habeas corpus*, *præmunire*, *nisi prius*: such are some terms of controversial divinity, as *hypothesis*; and of

† Milton.

physick, as the names of diseases; and in terms which can be found in books not confessedly upon particular arts, or can be necessary to those who do not regularly study. Thus when a reader not skilled in physick reads Milton upon this line,

- - - - - pining atrophy  
*Marasmus*, and wide-wasting pestilence

he will with equal expectation look into his dictionary for the word *marasmus*, as for *atrophy*, or will have reason to complain if he does not find it.

It seems necessary to the completion of a dictionary design'd not merely for critics but for popular use, that it should comprise, in some degree, the peculiar terms of every profession; that the terms of war and navigation should be inserted so far as they can be understood by readers of travels, and of history; and that the terms of merchandise and mechanical trades, so far as they are supposed useful in the occurrences of common life, should be included.

BUT there ought, however, to be some distinction made between the different classes of words. Therefore it will be proper to print those which are incorporated into the language in the usual manner, and those which are still to be considered as foreign in the Italick letter.